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News Release

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NEW YORK MAPLE SYRUP PRODUCTION UP 81 PERCENT

New York maple syrup 2011 production increased 81 percent from last year. Syrup production is estimated at 564,000 gallons, up from the 312,000 gallons produced in 2010 according to King Whetstone, Director of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, New York Field Office. Production was the highest it has been since 1947. Only Vermont produced more syrup than New York. The number of taps, 2.01 million, increased 6 percent from last year, which is the largest number of taps since 1950. Syrup produced per tap averaged 0.280 gallons, up from 0.164 gallons in 2010. The final value of the 2010 crop is \$12.3 million, 31 percent below the previous year's value of production. The average price was \$39.40 per gallon equivalent for all sales.

The overwhelming majority of maple producers reported a favorable season, although there was some variability by region. In general, temperatures started out favorable for sap flow, followed by a cold spell, and then returned to favorable conditions once more. The abundance of below-freezing nights and above-freezing days resulted in a very long season. Producers tapping early took advantage of a few earlier than normal runs. Also, producers using a vacuum system fared better than those on gravity tubing or buckets. Medium syrup accounted for 59 percent of production, with 20 percent dark and 21 percent light.

The 2011 United States maple syrup production totaled 2.79 million gallons, up 43 percent from the revised 2010 total. The number of taps is estimated at 9.58 million, 3 percent above the 2010 revised total of 9.26 million. Yield per tap is estimated to be 0.292 gallons, up 38 percent from the previous season's revised yield. All states showed an increase in production from the previous year. Vermont led all States in production while production in New York rebounded from last year's cold affected season. Pennsylvania production was a record high. Ohio producers reported excellent sap collecting conditions which produced the highest yield per tap that the state has seen since this statistic was first measured in 2001. Temperatures were reported to be favorable for optimal sap flow in all states. On average, the season lasted 32 days compared with 23 days last year. In most states, the season started later than last year.

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